



Town of Marion
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Town Administrator Report

As Presented to the Select Board on August 16, 2022

- The Wanderer Keel Award – I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Harry Norweb, Dianne Cosman and Merry Conway for earning the recognition of the Wanderer Keel Award and their hard work on the Park project at the Community Center. They are completely deserving of the award and although it was a team effort to complete all the work that has been done at the Center, without their leadership none of it would have been accomplished. Congrats to them all on the award.
- Annual Fall Town Meeting Discussion- Next, I would like to have a discussion regarding a possible fall town meeting. At this point I have nothing pressing to bring to the boards attention that would require a fall town meeting. Although historically we have held the meetings, typically there has been one or two items that drive that need. At this point I have a handful of zoning changes but nothing is pressing. I wanted to discuss with the board and get your feedback.
- Board of Heath Appointment - We have advertised the vacant seat in The Wanderer and have sent out an email. It is also posted on the Town's website. My plan was to give it to till Labor Day and then share the few resumes we have received with both boards. Once that happens I will schedule a joint meeting with the BOH to review the candidates and vote to fill the seat until the next election. As of today we have only received a few applications.

- Marion Town Party – The Marion Town Party will be held at Silvershell Beach on Saturday, August 27 beginning at 4pm. Food and drinks will be for sale

- Change of September 6, 2022 meeting – Due to a scheduling conflict our next meeting will be on September 7th at 6pm, instead of September 6.

- Updates on the Harbormaster Building and DPW Building Projects - I want to provide a brief update on both the DPW project and the Harbormaster project.

- o Harbormaster project- I am thrilled to let the board know that we were awarded \$1M from the Seaport Economic Council for construction of the project. This will leave us exactly \$1M short of the funds needed to start construction. I have been working with Representative Straus on this last hurdle and I am happy to report that he was able to include this last \$1M in the new Economic Development Bill that passed the house. Unfortunately this bill is stalled on Beacon Hill and I am not sure on its future. Should the bill get passed we will work with Rep Straus on next steps to receive the funds. In the meantime we apply again this fall to Seaport for the last \$1M needed. Meanwhile design and permitting are underway with a deadline of this November. Once design is complete, we will go back out for another round of cost estimates to ensure we are inline with our budget. We are still hoping to have the funding in place for a summer 2023 bid and construction in the fall of 2023.

- o DPW Project - I have held the first meeting of the DPW project committee and we are working on a number of items. First we are looking at moving the location of the facility to the area near the water town to allow for more space should future additions be required. Next we are looking at the type of construction that we will be using, wood or steel. There are benefits to both and we are working to schedule some site visits to explore both. I am also happy to report that we will be moving forward with Saltonstall Architects for the next phase of the project and look forward to working with Will on helping the building make some decisions and prepare for eventual bidding and construction. Once more planning is advanced I will report back to the board before any final decisions are made.

- Lagoon project update- A fully executed copy of Change Order 12 was distributed today. It sets 9/15/2022 as the new Substantial Completion Date, which requires full use of the lagoon by the Town. In order to meet that deadline, Methuen Construction is expected to re-mobilize and resume work next week to complete the following tasks:

- Perform pipeline testing
- Perform additional liner sealing around the concrete effluent structure
- Modify the submerged aeration system so that it complies with the manufacturer's requirements
- Install and commission the floating aeration system in the forebay

Methuen will still have some additional tasks and punch list items to complete after Substantial Completion, with the Final Completion Date set as November 5, 2022.